

February 27, 2004

Mr. Bryant VanBrakle, Secretary
Federal Maritime Commission
800 North Capitol Street, N.W.
Room 1046
Washington, D.C. 20573

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RE: Support for BDP International, Inc., and its affiliates (hereinafter collectively "BDP"), Federal Maritime Commission Exemption Petition No. P2-04

Dear Sir:

We recognize that the comment period ended February 13, 2004. Please accept this late comment in support of the Petition that BDP has filed a Petition for purposes of permitting BDP and its affiliates to utilize confidential service contracts with its shippers. It is our understanding that when the FMC approves this exemption Petition, BDP, an FMC licensed Ocean Transportation Intermediary, would be able to enter comprehensive confidential logistics/transportation contracts that would include ocean transportation components, something which they cannot do under current law and regulations. We fully support BDP's Petition for the reasons discussed below.

We are aware of BDP and its affiliates, as a reliable, financially sound, highly professional 3rd Party Logistics ("3 PL"), group of companies that services both large and small shippers. Our company depends on BDP for straight transportation services in all modes of transportation as well as for intermodal and full-service global supply chain management solutions. BDP has assisted our company to solve our supply chain problems, and to develop and implement distribution strategies that help us meet our long-term transportation/logistics goals. Our requirements many times include ocean transportation components. It is our sincere expectation that the FMC will grant BDP an exemption so that we can enter comprehensive confidential contracts with BDP that are all inclusive of the services they provide us, including ocean transportation. This current restriction serves no useful regulatory purpose for a professional financially responsible company like BDP. Further, it is important for shippers to maintain confidentiality in their transactions with transportation companies, something which public tariffs do not provide.

It is our understanding that it is within the discretion of the agency to grant exemptions in matters like these, so we respectfully request that the FMC grant this Petition. From our perspective this exemption would only promote commerce and competition, while providing shippers fully confidential transactions. Shippers like ourselves would obviously be winners in this new environment.

Regards,

Jim Nardone
Manager, Transportation

